A BRIEF REVIEW ON THE RECORDED VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1925.

A statement showing by districts the number of births, the number of deaths classified according to principal causes and the infant mortality recorded during the half year ending 30th June 1925, is hereto annexed.

2. The total number of BIRTHS registered, during the half year was 44,281, as against 50,262 in the preceding half year equivalent to annual ratios of 15·11 and 17·15 respectively per mille of population. The highest birth-rate (18·70) was returned for the Chitaldrug District and the lowest (10·62) for the Hassan District the rates for the other districts ranging between 17·56 (Kolar) and 11·59 (Kadur).

3. The number of DEATHS under all causes returned for the half year totalled 53,955 yielding an annual ratio of 18·41 per 1,000 of population as compared with 62,565 and 21·35 per mille respectively in the preceding half year. The death-rate for the Chitaldrug District (14·91) was the lowest during the half year and that for the Hassan District (23·56) the highest, the rates for the other districts ranging between 15·89 (Tumkur) and 22·22 (Kadur). Deaths exceeded births in five districts, Tumkur, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga and Kadur, the largest difference 12·94 per mille being for Hassan and the next largest 10·63 per mille for Kadur. Defective registration is mostly responsible for this difference.

4. The mortality among children under one year of age amounted to 5,185 as against 6,249, during the previous half year. This gives an average rate of 117·11 per 1,000 recorded births. The highest infantile mortality rates were returned for Hassan. The rates was also high for Kolar (145·13) and Shimoga (142·43). In the other districts the rates ranged between 96·46 (Tumkur) and 79·20 (Mysore).

5. PLAGUE was returned for all the districts accounting for a total of 903 deaths as compared with 1,623 in the previous half year. The deaths returned for Kolar, Tumkur, Shimoga, Kadur and Chitaldrug was so few that these districts may be practically considered to have remained free from the disease, during the half year.

6. CHOLERA accounted for 64 deaths during the half year, the disease having occured in a sporadic form in the Kolar and Mysore Districts.

7. The recorded deaths under SMALL-POX were 4,237 as against 2,975 in the preceding half year. Excepting the district of Kadur, which was practically free from small-pox all the other districts were affected with a rather extensive prevalence of the disease. The number of successful vaccinations performed, during the half year in all districts totalled 66,105.

8. During the half year 28,178 deaths were returned as due to FEVERS as against 33,135, during the preceding half year. The incidence of fevers in the Mysore, Hassan and Shimoga Districts was high as compared with the other districts owing to malaria. The free distribution of quinine in the affected areas in the malnad districts was continued. Anti-malarial measures such as filling up or canalising ditches or hollows are reported to have received some attention. In regard to Mysore District the Reserve Sanitary Inspector (whose entertainment was sanctioned in Government Order No. L. 6466-7—San. 47-24-2, dated the 4th—5th March 1925) was deputed to make preliminary investigations in collaboration with the Local Medical and Sanitary staff with a view to collect information which might be useful in gauging the extent of prevalence of malaria and ankylostomiasis in the district. The investigation was completed in the Krishnarajpet Taluk, as a result of which a full time Sub-Assistant Surgeon has been posted for special duty to render medical aid in the affected villages. Enquiry in the rest of the district is in progress.

9. One thousand eight hundred and seventy-six deaths under DYSENTERY and DIARRHOEA were recorded during the half year as compared with 2,548 in the preceding half year.

10. A total of 1,614 deaths from RESPIRATORY DISEASES were returned as against 1,464 in the previous half year.

11. Five hundred and twenty-four deaths were returned as due to INJURIES including accidents, snake-bite, etc.

12. Under all other causes 16,559 deaths were returned as against 18,718 in the previous half year.

13. On the whole the public health was normal except for the prevalence of small-pox in several districts.